IT'S STANDARD PROCEDURE! HURRY, THERE'S NO TIME!
REMOVE A PART OF HIS SKULL? IS THAT OKAY?
I'M GOING TO REMOVE A PART OF HIS SKULL.
DECOMPRESSIVE CRANIECTOMY?

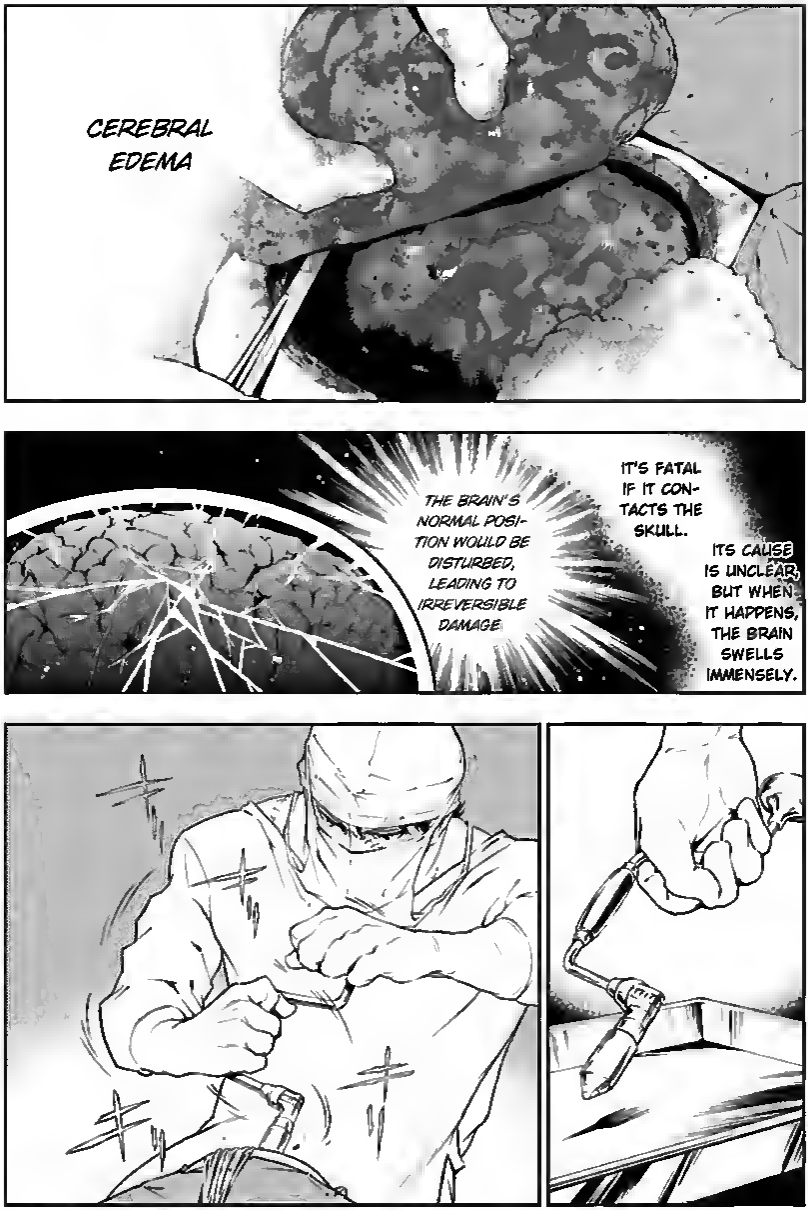
第7話 DESERTERS (3)

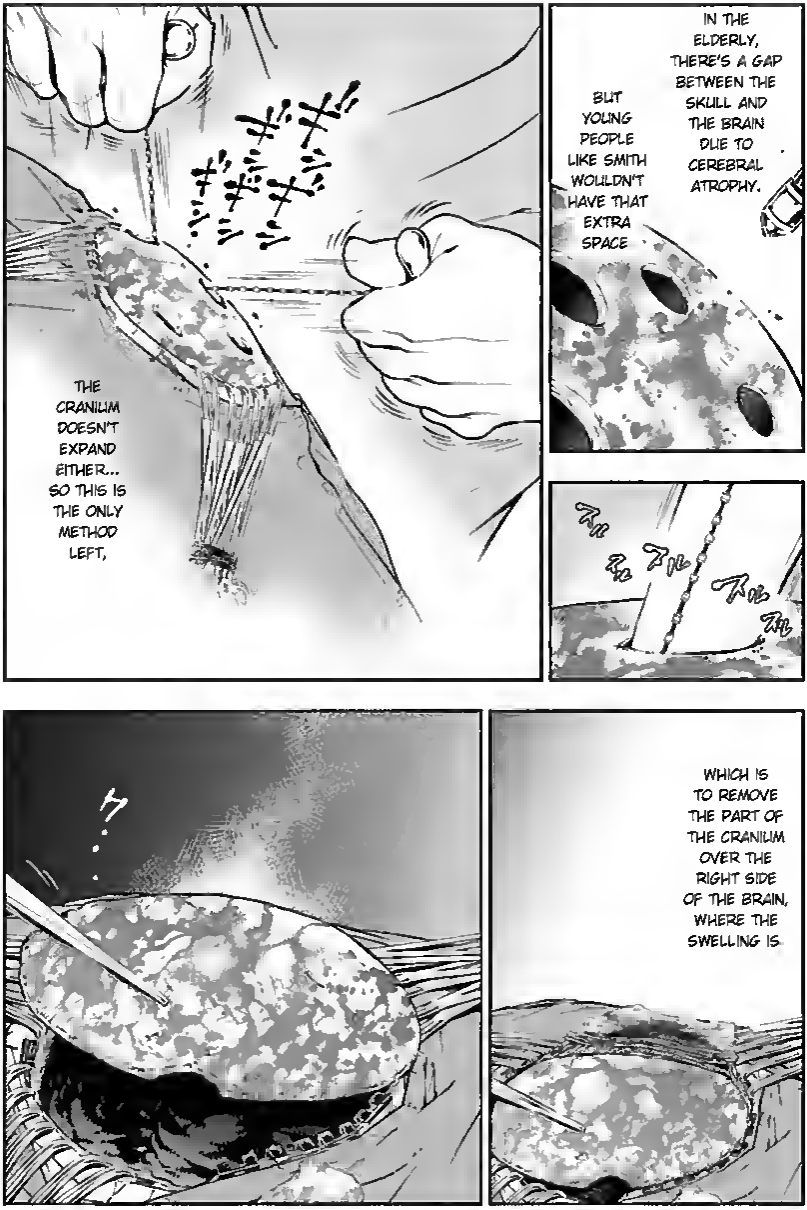
TRANSLATION BY KINKY PUG JACK

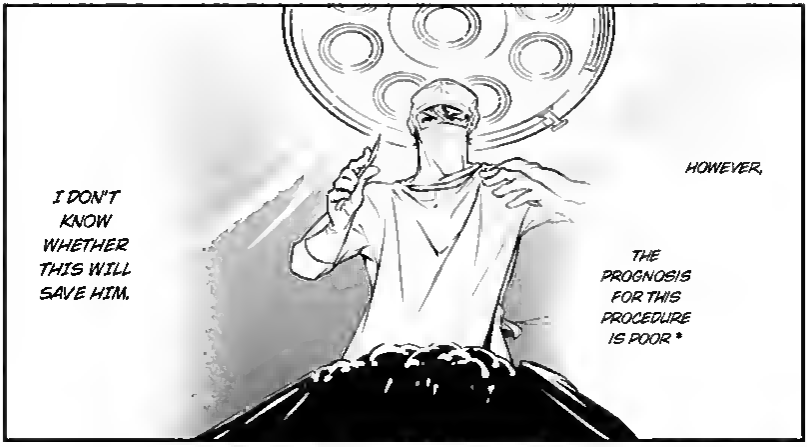
I KNEW YOU'D COME BACK EVENTUALLY.
WHAT I SAID
MUST'VE HIT WHAT LITTLE CONSCIENCE YOU HAD, DIDN'T IT?
IF I HEAR ANOTHER PEEP FROM YOU,
I'LL MAKE SURE YOU'LL NEVER OPEN YOUR MOUTH AGAIN!

BOTH OF YOU
ARE SELFISH SCUM.
HAZAMA? I SHOULD THANK YOU...
YOU SHUT UP AS WELL!
カツ
カツ
カツ
カツ
AOYAMA?
NO!
I'M NOT WRONG! I'M NOT WRONG! I'M..
WHAT'S UP WITH HIM?
……?

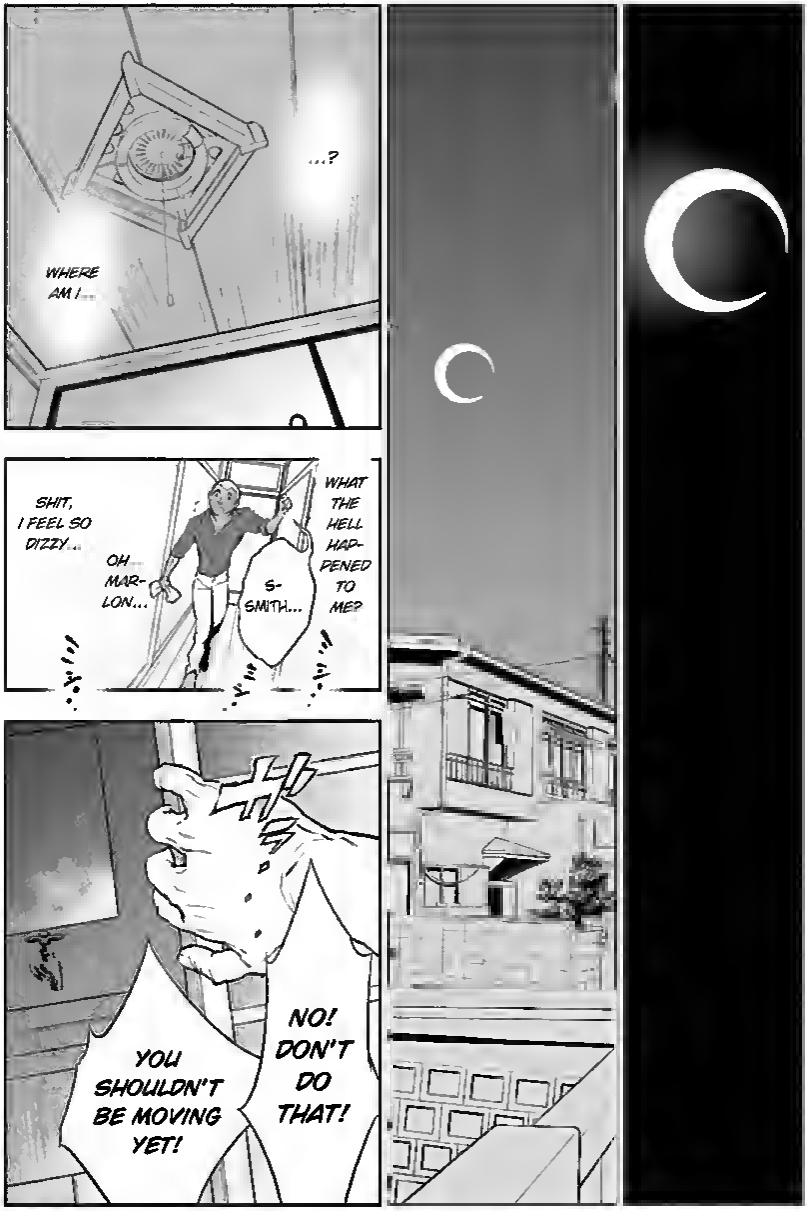
I FIGHT FOR JUSTICE AND THE GOOD OF SOCIETY.
I CAN'T BE WRONG.
TAMURA... DID I DO SOMETHING WRONG?


CEREBRAL EDEMA
THE BRAIN'S NORMAL POSITION WOULD BE DISTURBED, LEADING TO IRREVERSIBLE DAMAGE
IT'S FATAL IF IT CONTACTS THE SKULL.
ITS CAUSE IS UNCLEAR, BUT WHEN IT HAPPENS, THE BRAIN SWELLS IMMENSELY.


THE CRANIUM DOESN'T EXPAND EITHER... SO THIS IS THE ONLY METHOD LEFT,
IN THE ELDERLY, THERE'S A GAP BETWEEN THE SKULL AND THE BRAIN DUE TO CEREBRAL ATROPHY.
BUT YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE SMITH WOULDN'T HAVE THAT EXTRA SPACE
?
WHICH IS TO REMOVE THE PART OF THE CRANIUM OVER THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE BRAIN, WHERE THE SWELLING IS.



*THE PROBABILITY OF DEVELOPING COMPLICATIONS AFTERWARDS IS HIGH


...?
WHERE AM I...
SHIT, I FEEL SO DIZZY...
OH... MAR-LON...
S-SMITH...
WHAT THE HELL HAP-PENED TO ME?
YOU SHOULDN'T BE MOVING YET!
NO! DON'T DO THAT!

SMITH, CALM DOWN! YOU'RE ALRIGHT NOW!
WHAT. THE. FUCK. IS THIS?
DID THOSE YELLOW MONKEYS DO THIS TO ME?
Y-YOU GOT IT ALL WRONG!
YOU WERE SAVED!
THE GUY WITH THE SCAR ON HIS FACE-- THE JAPANESE DOCTOR SAVED YOU!
H-
HUH?!
YOU MORON! HOW DARE YOU MAKE ME SLEEP IN THIS SHIT-HOLE!
WHY THE HELL DIDN'T YOU CALL THE HOSPITAL?
BECAUSE IF WE DID, THEN...
PHONE! WHERE'S THE PHONE?

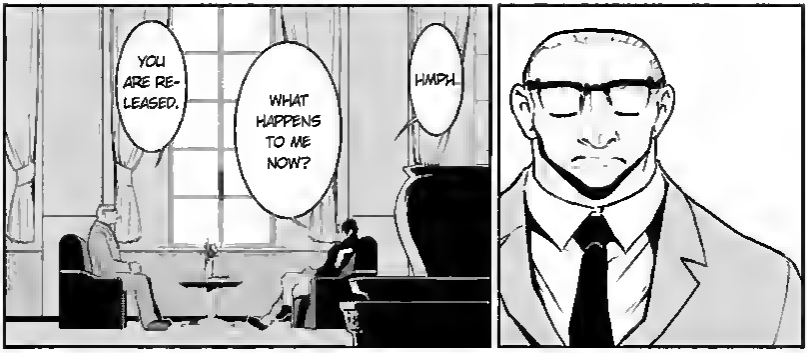
NEITHER MARLON NOR SMITH HAD THE TIME TO ESCAPE. THEY WERE ARRESTED.
THE POLICE ARRIVED QUICKLY.
SMITH, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
...
THAT SAID,
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO HAZAMA?
BUT THEY ONLY FOUND A TOY GUN.
AOYAMA VIOLATED THE SWORDS AND FIREARMS CONTROL LAW, SO THE POLICE SEARCHED HER HOME
AS FOR ME,
I WAS CONFINED TO MY HOUSE AFTER MY ACTIVITIES WERE UTTERLY EXPOSED
WOULD I GET INTO MEDICAL SCHOOL IN THIS STATE? WHO KNOWS!

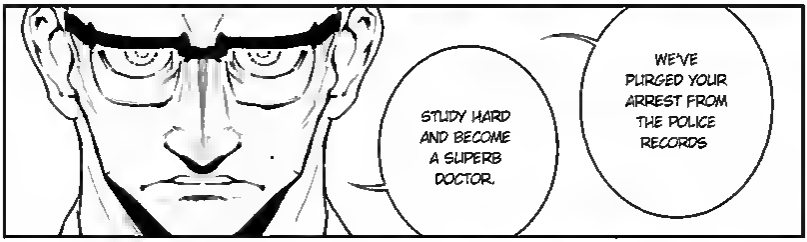
JUST FOR SAVING A LIFE,
THIS IS WHAT HE GETS IN RETURN.
HE PROBABLY GOT ARRESTED FOR TREATING SOMEONE WITHOUT A LICENSE
MAYBE HE GOT EXPELLED FROM MEDICAL SCHOOL,
AND HE'LL PROBABLY NEVER BE ABLE TO ACQUIRE A LICENSE
MY LIFE
IS OVER.

GET UP.
DR. HONMA,
MAYBE THIS PATH WASN'T MEANT FOR ME...
I SHOULDN'T HAVE OPERATED ON HIM AT ALL...
IN THE END, SMITH WAS SENT BACK TO THE ARMY...
ONLY I GOT THE SHORT END OF THE STICK. I'M AN IDIOT.

TO BE HONEST, WE'VE BEEN OBSERVING YOU GUYS FOR A WHILE.
THANK YOU FOR SAVING SMITH.
SO YOU'RE HA-ZAMA.
IN FACT, HE'S AN AGENT SENT BY US, THE C.I.A. (AMERICA'S CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY).
NOR IS "SMITH" HIS REAL NAME.
SMITH IS NOT A DESERTER
THAT'S WHAT A DOCTOR ACQUAINTANCE OF MINE TOLD ME
IF YOU HADN'T OPERATED ON SMITH, HE DEFINITELY WOULD'VE DIED.

HE'S A PROFESSOR AT JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY.
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA
HA HA HA
HA HA HA
IF YOU'VE BEEN SPYING ON US, WHY DIDN'T YOU HELP OUT?
ISN'T HE YOUR COMRADE?
IS THIS HOW THE C.I.A. OPERATES?


YOU ARE RELEASED.
WHAT HAPPENS TO ME NOW?
HMPH.


WE'VE PURGED YOUR ARREST FROM THE POLICE RECORDS
STUDY HARD AND BECOME A SUPERB DOCTOR.

AS EXPECTED OF THE C.I.A.
ニヤッ

HOW DID HE GET A STROKE FOLLOWED BY CEREBRAL EDEMA WHEN HE'S SO YOUNG?
IT'S ABOUT SMITH
OH, ONE MORE THING

OUR TRAINING REGIME IS AS RIGOROUS AS THAT OF THE MARINES.
MY GUESS IS SOMETIME DURING TRAINING, SMITH TORE HIS CAROTID ARTERY, WHICH RESULTED IN A STROKE...

AFTER THIS EVENT, HAZAMA KURO'O, LATER KNOWN AS BLACK JACK,
LEARNED A COUPLE OF PROFOUND LESSONS.
OH, THIS...
YOU HAVE A WHITE COAT AND A BAGGIE, SO YOU'RE A DOCTOR, RIGHT?
DOC-TOR?
WAIT, WAIT! PLEASE HELP US!
DOC-TOR!
THE FIRST LES-SON
WAS TO COLLECT THE TREATMENT FEE UPFRONT.

THE OTHER LESSON
WILL HE BE OKAY?
I'VE OPERATED ON A KITTY BEFORE
HE'LL BE FINE
WAS THAT EVEN IF THE PATIENT'S LIFE WAS HANGING BY A THREAD, HE SHOULDN'T RECKLESSLY GO OUT TO SAVE THEM
SO SHE THREW HERSELF AMONG EVEN MORE EXTREM RADICALS...
AOYAMA RESENTED THE HALF-HEARTED-NESS OF S.A.V.E.
AFTER-WARDS,
AFTER THE BATTLE OF HUE AGAINST THE VIET CONG, HIS WHERE-ABOUTS WAS UNKNOWN.
MARLON, WHO WAS DEMOTED TO THE RANK OF PRIVATE, WAS SENT BACK TO FIGHT IN VIETNAM.

MEASURING INTRACRANIAL PRESSURE

CURRENTLY, THERE ARE TWO MAJOR WAYS OF DETERMINING INTRACRANIAL PRESSURE (CEREBROSPINAL FLUID PRESSURE):

1) PRESSURE SENSOR METHOD
2) WATER COLUMN METHOD

1) IN THE FIRST METHOD, AFTER DRILLING A HOLE INTO THE SKULL, A SENSOR CONNECTED TO A MONITOR WOULD BE PLACED ONE MILIMETER INTO THE EPIDURAL SPACE (OR SUBDURAL SPACE). THIS METHOD DID NOT EXIST YET BACK IN 1968.

2) IN THE SECOND METHOD, A TUBE WOULD BE INSERTED DIRECTLY INTO THE SPINAL CAVITY OR THE LATERAL VENTRICLE. THE TUBE IS THEN CONNECTED TO A WATER COLUMN MANOMETER, WHERE THE THE FLUID PRESSURE WOULD BE MEASURED BY THE HEIGHT OF THE WATER IN THE MANOMETER.

HOWEVER, IT'S NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO ASSEMBLE THE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT IN A CLINICAL SETTING. THUS, AS DEPICTED IN THIS CHAPTER, THE FLUID PRESSURE CAN BE APPROXIMATED BY THE HEIGHT OF THE CEREBROSPINAL FLUID IN THE COLUMN FOLLOWING A LUMBAR PUNCTURE.